



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

*Preventing  
environmental  
damage from  
hazardous waste,  
and restoring  
contaminated  
sites for all  
Californians.*



State of California



California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, January 2007

## Recent Environmental Investigation at 28<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School

This Fact Sheet is an update on recent investigations conducted at the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School in December 2006. The investigations revealed elevated levels of tetrachloroethene (PCE) in soil gas (vapors in the soil) samples collected below the paved playground area, and in and around the buildings. PCE is a common industrial solvent that is used to clean machine parts.

### This Fact Sheet Tells You:

- Air Sampling Activities
- Investigation Findings
- DTSC Oversight
- Next Steps

### Air Sampling Activities

Air samples were collected inside select bungalows and classrooms, outside near school buildings, from the crawl spaces of three bungalows adjacent to the playground and inside the staff lounge (see Figure). Elevated PCE levels, as compared to regional outdoor air levels, were found in the bungalow crawl spaces, staff lounge, and inside two of the bungalows. These PCE levels do not pose any immediate health risk to students or staff.

As a precaution, LAUSD will vent the air that gathers in the crawl spaces below the bungalows and will prevent stagnant air from collecting in the classrooms by increasing air exchanges. In addition, DTSC will evaluate and initiate additional investigations of off-site sources if necessary.

**COMMUNITY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2007**

**2:30 PM**

**28<sup>TH</sup> STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM  
2807 STANFORD AVENUE, LOS ANGELES**

You are invited to a community meeting. At this meeting DTSC will provide you with the results of the environmental investigation of the site. The DTSC encourages you to take an active interest in the issues related to the environmental investigation by attending the meeting.

For more information on meeting room accessibility and to request reasonable accommodations, please contact Ms. Marina Pérez at (818) 551-2875.



## Investigation Findings

During the 2006 sampling, elevated levels of PCE were measured in several soil gas samples below the paved playground area. In addition to air samples, 70 subsurface soil gas samples were collected throughout the school site. The highest levels of PCE were measured along the southwestern boundary of the school site. The exact source of the PCE is currently not known, but the area surrounding the school is industrialized. Exposures to very high concentrations of PCE can cause nervous system effects, such as dizziness, or unconsciousness. Long-term exposures can cause nerve, liver and kidney damage or cancer.

## DTSC Oversight

LAUSD requested DTSC oversight in the characterization of the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School in early 2006. At new or expanding school sites, DTSC is required to oversee environmental investigations to ensure mitigation and cleanup activities are conducted in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. DTSC is also available to provide oversight at existing schools to protect human health and the environment.

## Next Steps

Sampling results and an update on the Health Risk Assessment will be presented at a community meeting on **Wednesday, February 7, 2007, 2:30 PM**, at 28th St. Elementary School, Multipurpose Room, 2807 Stanford Avenue, Los Angeles, CA. Based on the data received, DTSC and LAUSD will evaluate the need for additional mitigation measures.

## Who to Contact for Information

If you have any questions about the recent investigation, please contact the following persons:

### DTSC Contacts:

Aldo Chaney  
DTSC Project Manager  
School Property Evaluation and Cleanup Division  
(818) 551-2972  
[achaney@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:achaney@dtsc.ca.gov)

Marina Pérez (*bilingüe*)  
DTSC Public Participation Specialist  
(818) 551-2875 or toll free 1-866-495-5651  
[mperez@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:mperez@dtsc.ca.gov)

### LAUSD Contact:

Prudence Boczarski-Daniel  
LAUSD Project Manager  
Office of Environmental Health and Safety  
(213) 241-3922  
[prudence.boczarski@lausd.net](mailto:prudence.boczarski@lausd.net)

**Si desea información en español, comuníquese con la: Srta. Marina Pérez, Especialista en Participación Pública del DTSC, al (818) 551-2875.**

### For Media Inquiries:

Jeanne Garcia  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
(818) 551-2176  
[jgarcia@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jgarcia@dtsc.ca.gov)

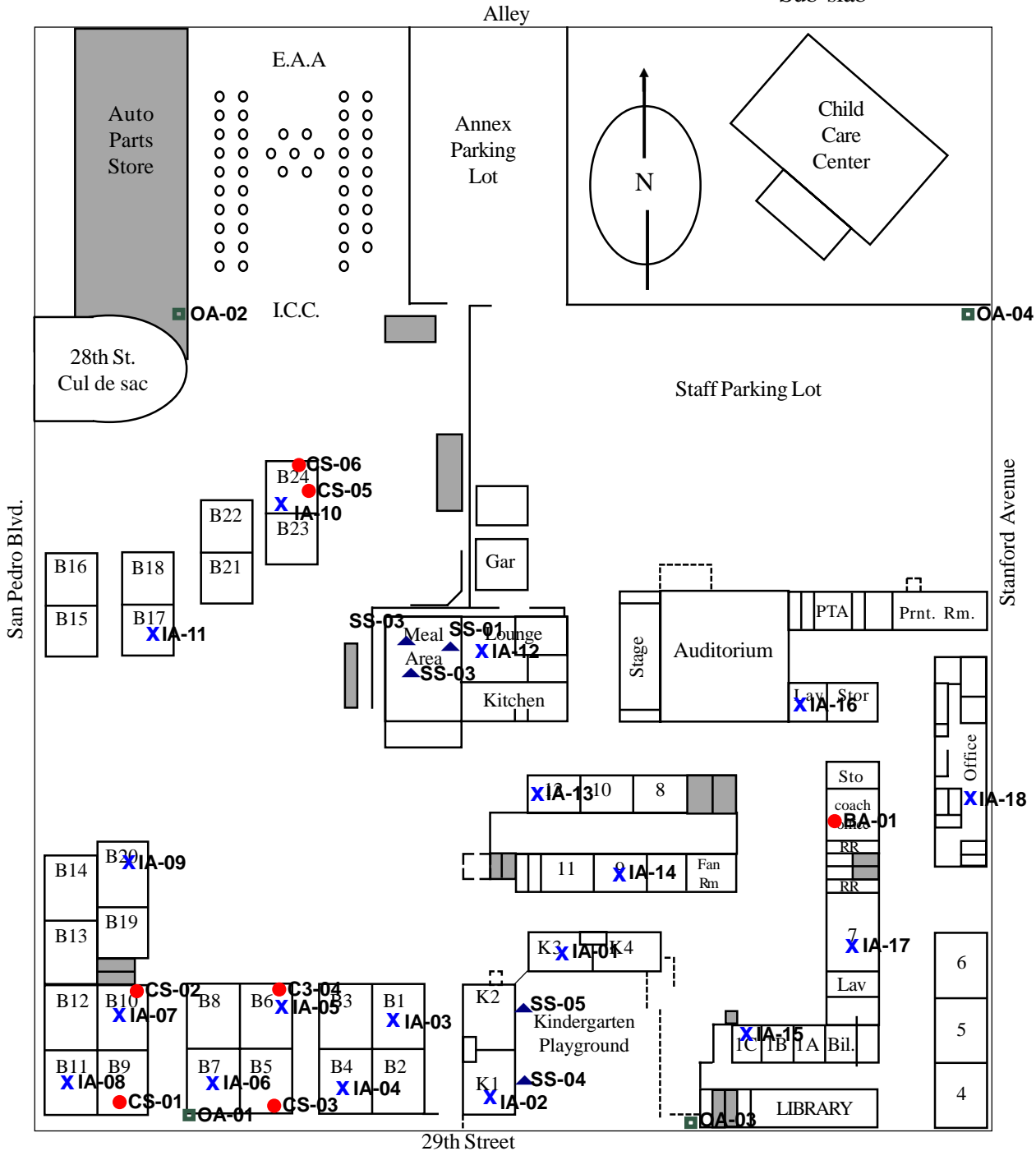
### Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 (TDD), or by calling Marina Perez, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (818) 551-2875.

# 28th Street Elementary School Indoor Air Sampling Plan

## Explanation

- Crawl Space / Basement
- ✕ Indoor
- Outdoor
- ▲ Sub-slab



For more information about DTSC, see our Web site at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).